

Abstract

The invention relates to thermosetting compositions, in particular coating or molding compositions, comprising crosslinked polymer microparticles with a size ranging from 10 to 300 nm and carrying at least one reactive functional group which can react with at least one of the reactive components of the thermosetting composition. Preferably, these microparticles carry at least one second reactive functional group distinct from the first which can react with at least one other functional group of the same type carried by another microparticle and/or by a reactive component of the thermosetting composition. These microparticles are at least partially soluble, miscible and/or dispersible in the starting thermosetting composition. The preferred thermosetting compositions are based on resins of epoxy/amine type or on unsaturated polyester resins and/or on vinyl ester resins.

The coatings or molded items obtained exhibit very good mechanical, thermal and chemical strength resulting from the presence of these microparticles.